INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT onal Application No PCT/IB2004/051238 A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 G01R33/28 G01F G01R33/341 G01R33/3415 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 GO1R Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) PAJ, WPI Data, INSPEC, EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Χ US 5 936 406 A (POTTHAST ANDREAS) 1-7 10 August 1999 (1999-08-10) column 1, line 53 -column 2, line 62 column 4, line 40 -column 6, line 65; figures 3-6 X US 2002/021128 A1 (KUHARA SHIGEHIDE) 1-7 21 February 2002 (2002-02-21) paragraphs '0091!-'0097!; figure 5 χ US 2002/055676 A1 (VISSER FREDERIK ET AL) 1-4,6,7 9 May 2002 (2002-05-09) paragraphs '0015!-'0027!; figure 1 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. X Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: \*T\* later document published after the internations, filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance Invention earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention

cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such docu-"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 28 September 2004 19/10/2004 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Lersch, W

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

interplication No PCI/IB2004/051238

Continue	ntion) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	PCT/IB2004/051238		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1995, no. 08, 29 September 1995 (1995-09-29) & JP 07 124135 A (TOSHIBA CORP), 16 May 1995 (1995-05-16) abstract	1,2,4,6,		
X	US 5 715 822 A (DUMOULIN CHARLES LUCIAN ET AL) 10 February 1998 (1998-02-10) column 2, line 52 -column 5, line 2; figures 1-3	1-3,6,7		
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 016, no. 202 (C-0940), 14 May 1992 (1992-05-14) -& JP 04 035645 A (TOSHIBA CORP), 6 February 1992 (1992-02-06) abstract	1-7		
A	US 6 492 814 B1 (DARROW ROBERT DAVID ET AL) 10 December 2002 (2002-12-10) column 4, line 15 -column 6, line 59; figures 3,4	1,4-7		

## III I EINIM HOIME GEMIOH INEL OINT

## iformation on patent family members

Into
PCT/IB2004/051238

						, •	
Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)			Publication date	
US 593640	06 A	10-08-1999	DE JP	19653535 10179551	_	10-06-1998 07-07-1998	
US 200202	21128 A1	21-02-2002	JP	2002010992	? A	15-01-2002	
US 200205	55676 A1	09-05-2002	WO EP JP	0229429 1228379 2004510513	) A1	11-04-2002 07-08-2002 08-04-2004	
JP 07124	135 A	16-05-1995	NONE				
US 571582	22 A	10-02-1998	NONE		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
JP 040350	545 A	06-02-1992	JP JP	1851557 5065179	-	21-06-1994 17-09-1993	
US 64928	14 B1	10-12-2002	NONE				
~~~~~							